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**CLAIMS**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A The method for managing defects in a mass storage device, comprising: of claim 1, wherein the copying step (b) further comprises the steps of:

obtaining at least one segment of a defect table from a data storage medium of the mass storage device, wherein the defect table is partitioned into a plurality of segments;

~~(b)(1)~~ identifying at least one segment of the defect table that is associated with the most recently used data regions of the mass storage device; and

~~(b)(2)~~ copying at least one of the identified segments into a memory.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 ~~claim 1~~, further comprising the steps of:

~~(e)~~ obtaining an application of the mass storage device; and

~~(d)~~ committing a portion of the memory to the application.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

~~(d)(1)~~ obtaining a quantity of multimedia streams; and

~~(d)(2)~~ committing a portion of the memory to each multimedia stream.

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7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 ~~claim 1~~, further comprising the steps of:

- (c) obtaining a quantity of defects found during a manufacturing test process of the mass storage device; and
- (d) committing a portion of the memory to the quantity of defects.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the mass storage device further comprises a disc drive.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the memory further comprises a cache.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the cache further comprises a cache selected from a group consisting of an associative cache, a first-in-first-out cache, a multilevel cache, a single level cache, a chained cache, and a linked list cache.

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12. (Currently Amended) A data storage device, comprising:

a data storage medium;

a memory;

a defect table listing the defects on the data storage medium, wherein  
the defect table is partitioned into a plurality of segments;

a data storage controller, communicatively coupled to the data storage  
medium and the memory, operably configured to:

identify ~~obtain~~ at least one segment of the defect table  
that is associated with the most recently used data  
regions of the mass storage device ~~from the data~~  
~~storage medium;~~ and

copy the at least one identified segment of the defect table  
into a memory.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 12, wherein the  
controller is further configured to:

determine that a size of a segment is not greater than the memory; and  
copy the segment into the memory.

15. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 12, wherein the  
plurality of segments further comprise more than one segments that are  
physically distributed throughout the data storage medium.

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16. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 12, wherein the controller is further configured to:

obtain an application of the data storage device; and  
commit a portion of the memory to the application.

17. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 16, wherein the application further comprises a multimedia application and the controller is further configured to:

obtain a quantity of multimedia streams; and  
commit a portion of the memory to each multimedia stream.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The data storage device of claim 12, wherein the memory further comprises a cache.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) An information handling system to manage one or more defects of a mass storage device comprising:

a recording medium;  
a defect table that is partitioned into a plurality of segments;  
a processor operably coupled to the recording medium;  
a memory device operably coupled to the processor, having a defect  
buffer that is smaller than the defect table; and  
means operative on the processor for managing the defect table and the  
defect buffer.

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22. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of claim 21, wherein the means operative on the processor further comprises:

a command that, when executed, will transfer at least one of the plurality of segments of the defect table into the defect buffer.

23. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of claim 22, wherein the command further comprises the functions of:

determining at least one of a plurality of segments of the defect table that are associated with a plurality of most-recently-used data regions of the recording medium; and

transferring at least one of the plurality of the most-recently-used segments of the defect table into the memory device.

24. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of claim 22, wherein the command further comprises the functions of:

determining that the defect table on the recording medium is partitioned into a plurality of segments;

determining that the defect table on the recording medium is bigger than the defect table in the memory device; and

transferring the segment of the one or more segments of the defect table on the recording medium into the defect table in the volatile storage device.

25. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of claim 24, wherein the one or more segments further comprise one or more segments that are physically distributed throughout the recording medium.